COMPENDIUM OF TRENDS:

Most General Social Survey questions were asked prior to the start of GSS in 1972. In an effort to make results of these earlier questions easily available, NORC has produced the following report:

A compendium of trends on General Social Survey questions. By Tom W. Smith with the assistance of Guy J. Rich. NORC Report 129. 1980. xxi, 260p. (ISBN 0-932132-24-3)

The Compendium has the following characteristics:

1) Includes marginal tabulations for all known data points that have exact or equivalent national usage for selected GSS non-demographic variables.

2) For GSS demographic variables, only the GSS distribution is given.

3) Trend models are fitted to each series.

4) Included also are:
   . an introduction summarizing the trends
   . subject index
   . an appendix with standard deviations
   . trends arranged by mnemonic (access to mnemonics is given via the subject index)

The Compendium includes GSS totals through 1978; later GSS readings are available, of course, in General Social Surveys, 1972-1982: Cumulative codebook available from NORC for $10.00 (single copies; for multiple copy orders, send to The Roper Center, Box U-164R, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06268).

The Compendium may be purchased for $7.50, which includes special 4th class postage.** Please pre-pay with a check made out to National Opinion Research Center.

**For other rates (first class, parcel post,etc.),inquire.

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General Social Survey Technical Reports

GSS Technical reports issued so far or in progress are listed below. Availability is as follows:

1) Numbers published are available in reprint form, free, on request to author or to NORC Library at address given above, except as indicated.

2) Unpublished papers are available at cost of copying: 20¢ per page or 10¢ per page where two pages are reduced to one. This charge includes postage.

3) Unusually long papers (40 pages and over) will be lent on request to NORC library.

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1) Superseded by number 11.

2) "In search of house effects: A comparison of responses to various questions by different survey organizations." By Tom W. Smith. Published in Public Opinion Quarterly, v. 42, no. 4, Winter, 1978, pp. 443-463.

3) "Weighting the General Social Surveys for bias relating to household size." By C. Bruce Stephenson. February, 1978. 14p.

4) "Size of place codes in the 1972-1977 General Social Surveys." By Tom W. Smith. January, 1978. 12p.

5) "Probability sampling with quotas: An experiment." By C. Bruce Stephenson. Published in Public Opinion Quarterly, v. 43, no. 4, Winter, 1979, pp. 477 - 496

6) "Happiness: Time trends, seasonal variation, inter-survey differences and other mysteries." By Tom W. Smith. Published in Social Psychology Quarterly, v. 42, no. 1, March, 1979, pp. 18-39.

7) "Response rates on the 1975-1978 General Social Surveys with comparisons to the Omnibus surveys of the Survey Research Center, 1972-1976." By Tom W. Smith. June, 1978. 10p.

8) "Ethnic measurement and identification." By Tom W. Smith. Published in Ethnicity, v. 7, no. 1, March, 1980, pp. 78-95.

9) "Trends in NORC General Social Survey items, 1972-1977." By James A. Davis. March, 1978. 64p. (Revised and expanded version of a paper presented at the meetings of the American Sociological Association, Chicago, September, 1977.)

10) "Public opinion regarding various forms of sexual behavior." By D Garth Taylor and Tom W. Smith. Fall, 1978. 32p.

11) "Can we have confidence in confidence? Revisited." By Tom W. Smith. IN Denis F. Johnston, ed.: Measurement of Subjective Phenomena. Special Demographic Analyses, no. CDS-80-3. Washington, U.S. Bureau of the Census, October, 1981, pp. 119-189. (No reprints.)

12) Superseded by no. 27.

13) "Conservative weather in a liberalizing climate: Change in selected NORC General Social Survey items, 1972-1978." By James A. Davis. Published in Social Forces, v. 58, no. 4, June, 1980 pp. 1129-1156.

14) "An analysis of test/retest experiments on the 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1978 General Social Surveys." By Tom W. Smith and C. Bruce Stephenson. December, 1979. 85p.

15) "A compendium of trends on General Social Survey questions." By Tom W. Smith and Guy J. Rich. Published as NORC Report No. 129 (1980). xxi, 260p. $7.50 (includes postage).

16) "General liberalism and social change in post World War II America: A summary of trends." By Tom W. Smith. Published in Social Indicators, v. 10, no. 1, March, 1982, pp. 1-28. (Originally a paper presented at the meetings of the American Sociological Association, New York City, August, 1980.)

17) "Sex and the GSS: Nonresponse differences." By Tom W. Smith. September, 1979. 14p.

18) "Background variables and opinions in the 1972-1977 NORC General Social Surveys: Ten generalizations about age, education, occupational prestige, race, religion, and sex, and forty-nine opinion items." By James A. Davis. August, 1979. 84p.

19) Superseded by no. 27.

20) "Self-employment: An analysis of General Social Survey measures of employment status." By Tom W. Smith. August, 1980. 10p.

21) "Qualifications to generalized absolutes: "Approval of hitting" questions on the GSS." By Tom W. Smith. Published in Public Opinion Quarterly, v. 45, no. 2, Summer, 1981, pp. 224-230. (Although the article largely supersedes the original technical report, the report contains detail that the article does not and is therefore still available at the cost of copying. 19p.)

22) "If the child is father to the man, can he be mother to the woman: An experiment in generic words." By Nora Cate Scheaffer. July, 1981. 23p.

23) "House effects: A comparison of the 1980 General Social Survey and the 1980 American National Election Survey." By Tom W. Smith. Published in Public Opinion Quarterly, v. 46, no. 1, Spring, 1982, pp. 54-68, under title "House effects and the reproducibility of survey measurements."

24) "An analysis of GSS usage among sociologists." By Tom W. Smith. June, 1981. 6p.

25) "The hidden 25 percent: An analysis of nonresponse on the 1980 General Social Survey." By Tom W. Smith. April, 1981. 44p.

26) "College dropouts: An analysis of the psychological well-being and attitudes of various educational groups." By Tom W. Smith. Published in Social Psychology Quarterly, v. 45, no. 1, March, 1982, pp. 50-53.

27) "Who, what, when, where, and why: An analysis of usage of the General Social Survey, 1972-1980." By Tom W. Smith. June, 1981. 15p.

28) "Educated don't knows: An analysis of the relationship between education and item nonresponse." By Tom W. Smith. August, 1981. 11p.

29) "Problems in ethnic measurement: Over-, under- and misidentification." By Tom W. Smith. February, 1982. 23p.

30) Not yet issued.

31) "Contradictions on the abortion scale." By Tom W. Smith. September, 1981. 12p.

32) Not yet issued.

33) Not yet issued.

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SUBJECT Information on General Social Survey (GSS) codebooks

Documentation for GSS data will be somewhat different starting in 1983.

The latest data set, a cumulative file covering 1972-1983, will be documented by a cumulative codebook. However, unlike codebooks for previous files, the 1972-1983 cumulative codebook will not contain responses for each individual year. Rather, a cumulated total for 1972 to 1982 will be given in the first column of the response section; then totals for the 1982 oversample of blacks will be given; then the totals for 1983; and then the totals for all years (1972-1983).

For persons using the data for the cumulative file covering 1972-1983, the responses for each years can be produced by computer.

However, for persons who wish to have totals for each year, 1972 to 1982, in a handy, printed format, the codebook for the cumulative file covering 1972-1982 will remain in print.

By using both the 1972-1982 and the 1972-1983 codebooks together, responses for all individual years will be available in print.

The two cumulative codebooks now in print are as follows:

Davis, James A.; Smith, Tom W.: General Social Surveys, 1972-1982: Cumulative codebook. Chicago, National Opinion Research Center, 1982. 398p. (National Data Program for the Social Sciences Series, no. 3) $10.

Davis, James A.; Smith, Tom W.: General Social Surveys, 1972-1983: Cumulative codebook. Chicago, National Opinion Research Center, 1983. 453p. (National Data Program for the Social Sciences Series, no. 4) $11.

They will be available at the prices given above which includes 4th class book postage. Single copies may be ordered from NORC; orders for single or multiple copies must be sent to the Roper Center as follows:

The Roper Center
Box U-164R
University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT 06268
(203) 486-4882

The Roper Center also distributes the machine-readable data files for GSS.

**(If you sent an order for GSS codebooks, your order is returned with this memorandum in case you want to revise the order. If you re-order from NORC, be sure to let us know that you have seen this memorandum or we will send it again!)